



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The City of Cambridge invites your business/organization to join the Cambridge Climate Leader program. This voluntary program is designed to encourage and support businesses and organizations to reduce their environmental impact by becoming more efficient, competitive, and resilient by improving their practices in the areas of energy, transportation, and waste management.

The benefits include:

- Reduced operating costs through energy efficiency and reduced waste disposal.
- Increased employee satisfaction by supporting alternatives for employee commutes.
- Enhanced customer and client satisfaction and loyalty by embracing positive environmental practices.
- Reduction of your business' or organization's environmental footprint.
- Enhanced livability of the community.
- Public recognition of your efforts.

How does it work?

1. Submit the completed partnership form.
2. City staff will contact your designated representative to assess your needs.
3. Where appropriate, the City will arrange for technical assistance to help identify opportunities to improve energy, transportation, and waste management practices.
4. Your business or organization undertakes actions that make sense for you. When the criteria of the program are met, you receive the right to display the Cambridge Climate Leader logo.
5. Each year you let the program know how you are doing.
6. The City sponsors public recognition.

What is the purpose of the program?

The City Council adopted the Cambridge Climate Protection Plan in 2002 which established a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Cambridge by 20 percent below 1990 levels by 2010. The City is doing its part to reduce GHG emissions by utilizing green building design, making our buildings more energy efficient, providing commuting options to our employees, and recycling.

To achieve the 20% goal, the entire community – businesses, institutions, places of worship, community organizations, government agencies, and residents – must be involved. Fortunately, the kinds of actions that reduce GHG emissions also make sense for many other reasons. For example, operating costs can be reduced by becoming more

energy efficient and reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfills. Using renewable energy can make your operations less vulnerable to rising oil, gasoline, and natural gas prices. The image of your business or organization can be enhanced by improving your environmental practices. The community will also benefit in other ways such as reduced air pollution, less traffic congestion, and better public health.

Cambridge is working to reduce GHG emissions because we think global climate change will affect us locally. We want to avoid the impacts as much as possible. While we know we can't do it by ourselves, we are joining hundreds of other communities, states, businesses, and countries in this effort. Now your business or organization can be part of the solution too. Join us!